Appln. No. 10/600,492 Amendment dated March 28, 2005 Reply to Office Action of February 23, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

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Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) An annular shaft flange for attachment to a shaft extending along a longitudinal axis, the shaft flange comprising:

a flange body having a first end face and a second end face being parallel and opposed, the first and second end faces being spaced to define an axial width of the shaft flange;

an inner curved engagement surface configured to contact an outer surface of the shaft when the shaft flange is attached to the shaft;

a first end and a second end formed on the flange body, the first and second ends being spaced from each other when the shaft flange is in an open position;

a first attachment projection extending from the first end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft;

a second attachment projection extending from the second end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and

a shaft engagement lip extending axially from the first end face of the flange body, the shaft engagement lip being integrally formed with both the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection, wherein the curved engagement surface is formed by both the shaft engagement lip and the flange body;

wherein the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection contact each other when the shaft flange is in the closed position;

wherein when the flange body is in the closed position, the first attachment projection can be attached to the second attachment projection to retain the shaft flange in the closed position.

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## Claims 13-14 (Cancelled)

- 15. (Previously Presented) The annular shaft flange of claim 12 further comprising a rivet extending between the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection, wherein the rivet extends perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the shaft.
- 16. (Currently Amended) An annular shaft flange for attachment to a shaft extending along a longitudinal axis, the shaft flange comprising:
- a flange body having a first end face and a second end face being parallel and opposed, the first and second end faces being spaced to define an axial with of the shaft flange, wherein the flange body is a one-piece member and includes a hinge formed opposite the first and second ends of the flange body;
- an inner curved engagement surface configured to contact an outer surface of the shaft when the flange is attached to the shaft;
- a first end and a second end formed on the flange body, the first and second ends being spaced from each other when the shaft flange is in an open position;
  - a first attachment projection extending from the first end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and
  - a second attachment projection extending from the second end of the flange body in a direction parallel to the longitudinal axis of the shaft; and,
    - a shaft engagement lip extending axially from the first end face of the flange body, the shaft engagement lip being integrally formed with both the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection, wherein the curved engagement surface is formed by both the shaft engagement lip and the flange body,
- wherein the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection contact each other when the shaft flange is in the closed position;

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wherein when the flange body is in the closed position, the first attachment projection can be attached to the second attachment projection to retain the shaft flange in the closed position.

Claims 17-18 (Cancelled)

- 19. (Currently Amended) The annular shaft flange of claim 18\_16 further comprising a rivet extending between the first attachment projection and the second attachment projection.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The annular shaft flange of claim <u>17\_16</u> wherein the shaft engagement lip contacts the outer surface of the shaft when the shaft flange is attached to the shaft.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The annular shaft flange of claim <u>17\_16</u> wherein the shaft engagement lip has an axial width greater than the axial width of the shaft flange.